

REMARKS

As a preliminary matter, the undersigned attorney, Eric D. Cohen and applicants' representative, now also attorney of record, John Coul, would like to thank the Examiner for the courtesy extended during the interview held on July 21, 2003 with John Coul. The interview was very productive.

Reconsideration and further examination of the subject patent application in light of the present Amendment and Remarks is respectfully requested. Claims 1-70 are currently pending in the application, claims 71 and 72 have previously cancelled, and claims 1-50, 52-61, and 65 are allowed. Claims 51, 62, 66-70 stand rejected and claims 63 and 64 are objected to.

Rejection of the Claims

Claims 51, 66, 68, 69, and 70 have been amended and are believed to distinguish over the prior art, as discussed during the above-mentioned Examiner's telephone interview held July 21, 2003.

Closing Remarks

Applicants note the Examiner's statement that claims 1-50, 52-61, and 65 are allowable over the art of record. For the foregoing reasons, applicants submit that the subject application is in condition for allowance and earnestly solicits an early Notice of Allowance. Should the Examiner be of the opinion that a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of the subject application, the Examiner is respectfully requested to call the undersigned at the below-listed number.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fee which may be required for this application under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16-1.18, including but not limited to the issue fee, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 23-0920. Should no proper amount be enclosed herewith,

as by a check being in the wrong amount, unsigned, post-dated, otherwise improper or informal, or even entirely missing, the Commissioner is authorized to charge the unpaid amount to Deposit Account No. 23-0920. A duplicate copy of this sheet(s) is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

WELSH & KATZ, LTD.

By



Eric D. Cohen

Registration No. 38,110

WELSH & KATZ, LTD.
120 South Riverside Plaza
22nd Floor
Chicago, Illinois 60606
(312) 655-1500
October 29, 2003